

## LATEST CABLE NEWS.

## Afghans and the Green Standard of Islam.

## CHRISTMAS AT CABUL.

## Apparition of Gambetta as the Santa Claus of France.

## GUBA'S SPRIG OF HOLLY.

## Fall of the Last Great Chieftain of Zululand.

## VICTORIA'S PRESENT TO IRELAND.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1879.

The Porte has granted 4,000,000 piastres for the relief of destitute persons in Constantinople during the winter.

The Emperor William stumbled on the stairs of the theatre two days ago, hurting his knee, but it is now well again and he drives out daily.

The Greek Boundary Commissioners have sent a note to the Porte demanding the resumption of the conferences regarding the frontier question.

A despatch from Larnica, Cyprus, to the *Daily News* says:—"The cattle plague is spreading, and no horned cattle are allowed to leave or enter Larnica by sea or land."

A Berlin despatch to the *Morning Post* says:—"The Mohammedans and Christians of Kuldja are agitating against the restoration of territory to China, and threaten armed resistance." The *Vedomosti* announces that Prince Dolgorouki, Governor-General of Moscow, intends to resign on account of ill health. General Ignatieff and Count Sghouvaloff are mentioned as possible candidates for the post.

The Municipal Council of Paris has rejected three items of the city's obligatory expenses for public worship, and the Prefect of the Seine has requested the Minister of the Interior to officially inscribe these items in the municipal budget.

WINTER QUARTERS FOR THE CAZARINA.

The Russian Major Domo and his secretary have arrived at Catania, Sicily, to select apartments for the Czarina. The latest bulletin from Cannes, dated the 22d inst., says that the condition of the Empress of Russia is unimproved.

A SOUTH AFRICAN CABLE.

It is expected that telegraphic communication between Aden, Zanzibar and the Cape of Good Hope will be completed to-day. The cable touches Zanzibar, Mozambique, Delagoa Bay and Durban, and connects with the land lines in South Africa. The rate will be \$2 15 per word from London.

AUSTRIAN DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

The *Daily News* Perth correspondent hears from a good authority that Count Ludolf, the Austrian Minister at Madrid, will succeed Count Zieby at Constantinople, and that Count Kalnoky, Austrian Ambassador at Copenhagen, will succeed Baron Langemann at St. Petersburg. Both of these appointments are said to have a special significance.

RELIEF FOR THE IRISH.

There is much dissatisfaction among the Irish people because the government has not applied the surplus of the Irish Church fund for the relief of the popular distress, which they are empowered to do by the terms of the Disestablishment act. The directors and members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul publish a declaration that the eleemosynary systems are a mockery and delusion, if intended to adequately meet the deep and dreadful famine now approaching. On the other hand Archbishop MacCabe, of Dublin, has issued a circular to the clergy of his diocese asking them to appoint a day for a collection in the churches and to urge their parishioners to contribute.

MONTENEGRINS AND ALBANIANS.

A despatch from Pera to the *Daily Telegraph* says:—"The Montenegrin Ambassador at Constantinople, who demanded his recall in consequence of the difficulty of his position in regard to the Gushin question, will leave on Friday next. [The *Daily Telegraph's* Vienna correspondent announces that Prince Nikita is resolved to take possession of Plava and Gushin by force of arms if those districts are not surrendered by the Ottoman authorities at once. The Prince, it is added, mistrusts the Porte and suspects that Mukhtar Pacha is not instructed to satisfy Montenegro in the sense of the Berlin Treaty. The accounts from Constantinople do not confirm this information. Mukhtar Pacha, it is stated, will, if necessary, compel the Albanians by force to submit to the transfer of Plava and Gushin to Montenegro. The Governor General and the military commander of the vilayet of Kosovo are reported to have arrived at Prirend, the latter having with him a proclamation to the inhabitants of the districts cited, urging the necessity of their immediate transfer to Montenegro. It is even stated that the Albanian nobilities have sent a delegate to Mukhtar Pacha promising to abandon all idea of resistance. Meanwhile the second encounter between the Montenegrins and Albanians is confirmed. The losses sustained by the Albanians are estimated at 300, and those of the Montenegrins at about the same figure. The Albanians were driven beyond the frontier after two days' hard fighting.]

CRAB AND CAZAREWITCH.

The *North German Gazette* publishes a letter from St. Petersburg contradicting the recent reports of difficulties between the Czar and Czarewitsch. It says that the latter goes to the Winter Palace daily and attends the conferences between the Czar and his Ministers. [The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes the following:—"Much has been said, and too much perhaps cannot be said, of the unhappy position of the Czar. But the second personage in the State is hardly less unhappily situated than his head, while in one particular the case of the Czarewitsch possesses a special claim to commiseration. He is believed to be in sympathy with the party of reform in Russia, and in political disagreement with the Czar as regards the expediency of attempting to remodel the institutions of the Empire in a constitutional sense. At the present moment, therefore, when a cause with which he is known to sympathize is being associated with and disgraced by the crimes of revolutionary conspiracy the position of the Czarewitsch has of course become a most painful one. Profound compassion must be felt for a son who is condemned to see the life of his father again and again attempted by men whose political demands he is supposed to favor, and

whose criminal methods of asserting them he can of course do nothing to check. Yet more complete becomes the misery of his situation when he feels that, though differences of opinion have in no degree affected his personal relations with his father, it is impossible for him to impose silence on the gossips who assert that political discord has led to mutual estrangement." The *Standard* has the following from Berlin:—"In well informed circles in St. Petersburg it is rumored that if the Czar visits Berlin and Cannes the Czarewitsch will be appointed Regent."

## WRECK OF THE BORUSSIA.

THE OWNERS STILL HAVE HOPES THAT HER PASSENGERS ARE SAFE.—MISADVENTURES OF THE THIRD OFFICER—FIVE MORE SURVIVORS ARRIVE AT LIVERPOOL.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1879.

The owners of the steamer *Borussia* allege that they believe that the vessel is still afloat, as she is built with water tight compartments, and that she is still in the track of American vessels; they also allege that they are hopeful concerning the crew and passengers. The third officer's boat was the last to leave the ship. Among the other boats was a large boat containing twenty Spaniards, and the mate's boat containing thirteen persons; these when last seen—presumably by the third officer's boat—were doing well. The third officer made an unsuccessful attempt to tow another boat containing two men. The crew of the steamer, when the boats left, were building rafts. The wind was then blowing a gale. Later advices by telegraph from Liverpool represent that nothing really new concerning the disaster can be obtained. It is asserted at the office of the agents that the captain did his duty manfully.

STORY OF THE THIRD OFFICER.

In his statement the third officer of the *Borussia* says that after the large boat, containing twenty Spaniards, and the mate's boat, containing thirteen persons, had left the *Borussia* a lifeboat, containing two of the stewards of the steamer, got adrift. He was sent after this boat by the captain and took charge of it, taking his own boat, in which five men were left, in tow; but the boat was swamped and all on board were drowned. The third officer endeavored to again reach the *Borussia*, which was fast sinking, but was unable to make head against the wind. He was ultimately compelled to abandon the attempt and run before the wind. At the time this occurred there were still three boats with the *Borussia*. The agents at Liverpool of the lost steamer *Borussia* state that there were one cabin and sixty-four stowage passengers from Liverpool for New Orleans and eighty stowage passengers from Corunna for Havana. A steamer which has just arrived at Liverpool reports that she spoke an inward bound bark with five more survivors of the steamer *Borussia* disaster on board. The name of the bark was not obtained by the tug. She was spoken off the Solte Islands.

ADRIPT FOR FIVE DAYS.

Later in the day the bark *Fuda* arrived at Liverpool with five Spaniards who were saved from the *Borussia*. Owing to their inability to speak English it is difficult to get from them a connected narrative of the terrible hardships they have undergone. Their boat, before it left the *Borussia*, contained, besides the Spaniards, the mate and three women; but no sooner was the boat lowered than it was partly stove by knocking against the steamer. The mate and the women accordingly returned to the wreck, but the Spaniards partly stowed the hole in the boat with some clothes, and their rope breaking they were cast off from the steamer. They had some provisions, but none of them knew anything of seamanship. For five days and six nights they were tossed about, suffering terribly, when they were observed by the German bark *Fulda*, in latitude 33 deg. 15 min. north, longitude 25 deg. 45 min. west. They know nothing of the fate of the *Borussia*. The latter was conveying to Texas sixty-five farmers and their families from the counties of Lancashire, Yorkshire and Durham, and a few from Scotland and Ireland.

AN OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

The Board of Trade has ordered an inquiry into the loss of the *Borussia*. The date of beginning the inquiry has not yet been fixed. The *Times* despatch from Liverpool says the captain of the *Fulda* reports that on the 7th inst. he picked up a boat, in which were five Spaniards. The rescued men slept uninterruptedly for sixty-eight hours. Upon being questioned they stated that they had joined the *Borussia* at Corunna. They also stated that the captain of the *Borussia* gave the order to lower the boats. They report that they stopped the hole in their boat with a pair of oilskin trousers.

AFGHAN AGAINST AFGHAN.

WAGING A RELIGIOUS WAR WITH AN EYE TO LOOT.—HILLMEN PLUNDER THE CABUL RAJAH.—SUFFERINGS OF THE BRITISH TROOPS.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1879.

The latest advices from Cabul, dated December 22, state that the insurgents have plundered the principal bazaar in the city, and it is said that large numbers are leaving with loot. The *Standard's* Lahore despatch says:—"General Roberts reports that his troops are suffering from overwork, cold and exposure." The Viceroy of India telegraphs to-day as follows:—"Mail bags from Cabul have arrived at Jagdulluk, the bearers being harmlessly fired at en route." Colonel Norman telegraphs from Jagdulluk to-day as follows:—"Heavy firing has been heard in the direction of Cabul for the past forty-eight hours. General Gough is close to Latabad, and it is expected that he will reach Cabul to-day."

SECOCENI SURRENDERS.

HIS TOWN TAKEN, HIS LIEUTENANTS KILLED, THE BASUTO YIELDS TO SUPERIOR FORCE.—A ZULU'S CRITICISM OF THE CONQUERORS OF ZULULAND.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1879.

A despatch from Cape Town, by the way of Madeira, says that Chief Secoceni surrendered on the 2d inst. [The messengers who were sent by Major Clarke on October 23 to treat with the Basuto are reported by a Middleburg correspondent to have reached Secoceni's in the evening, and next day there was a great council of chiefs, and "the common people being driven away," the chiefs expressed a wish for Clarke to come to them and see Secoceni in person. They doubted if their words were rightly reported; but when the messenger in chief said that a greater chief than Major Clarke was coming up to Fort Wecher and that they ought to come and see him they exclaimed that they were not fools to be taught by Clarke or any one else the way that two of their people had been and that if the white people wanted to fight they were ready. They had not got the cattle the

white people asked for. "The English," they said, "promised 2,000 head of cattle to the Boers. Then Major Clarke came and promised that Secoceni should live in peace and security, for which he thanked the Major; but when Major Clarke asked for the cattle promised to the Boers Secoceni told him he had not got them, and that he had only promised them to escape from the Boers. Then," said Clarke, "you had better pay the fine before you can expect to live in peace." So we found the English were taking us in a trap and that they were no better than the Boers. We never will be subject to the English, who compel the people to build forts and to work for them. All the English are liars. Sooner than submit to such a race we will fight for our lives." So said Makunipi, Sebace and Kyoluke, chiefs of renown, and one added that the English had no friends among any native tribe, but that men submitted from fear, but brave men would not. The Zulus had not been beaten, and there were Zulus in their land who said so. Where were Zulu prisoners? Where were Zulu cattle? The messenger told them Cetywayo was a prisoner and that they would suffer the fate of the Zulus if they resisted. They replied, "The English are great in war and diplomacy, but they are the greatest liars in the world." They would, however, make a truce for a year, but they would never submit. They added that they had not asked for peace, and that it was for the English to come to them, and not for them to go to the English. The mass meeting of the people which Secoceni attended definitely decided on war.]

FRANCE AWAITS GAMBETTA.

RUMORS OF A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER—LA PAIX DENIES THAT A CRISIS EXISTS.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 25, 1879.

The despatch from Paris to the *Times* announcing that President Grévy had again summoned M. de Freycinet and that an arrangement for a new Ministry had been definitely arrived at received no confirmation during the day. M. Waddington, de Freycinet and Challeme-Lacour were yesterday afternoon conferring at the residence of M. Waddington. The *Standard's* Paris correspondent says this morning that the *Republique Française* and the *Pais* have published articles which are calculated to cause serious concern, as they can only be regarded as giving evidence of a serious difference between the views of President Grévy and those of M. Gambetta. The article of the *Republique Française* is regarded as a plain intimation that M. Gambetta is ready to take office. The *Pais* states that there is no crisis at all, and that there is nothing to do but appoint a successor to M. Leroy. The *Pais* is President Grévy's organ.

THE SITUATION UNCHANGED.

The *Times* Paris despatch, dated Wednesday, midnight, says:—"Several members of the old Cabinet met to-day and unanimously resolved upon presenting a proposal to M. Waddington that, as the maintenance or reconstruction of the old Cabinet is impossible, M. Waddington or M. Say taking the Premiership being out of the question, M. de Freycinet should form a Cabinet. M. Waddington was deputed to acquaint President Grévy with this decision. At eleven o'clock to-night the situation was unchanged, M. de Freycinet not having been summoned. There is every reason to believe, however, that M. de Freycinet will be summoned for the third time to-morrow, to submit a list of names already determined.

GORDON IN EGYPT.

DISPLEASURE OF THE MINISTERS WITH THEIR AMBASSADOR TO AETHIOPIA—OVERHAULING HIS ACCOUNTS IN THE SUDAN—CHARGES OF INSUBORDINATION.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

LONDON, Dec. 24, 1879.

A despatch to the *Standard* from Cairo says:—"At a council of the Egyptian Ministers, at which the European Controllers were present, the Khedive submitted a despatch from Gordon Pacha stating that taxes amounting to £250,000 remained to be collected in the Sudan. The Ministers expressed great surprise, and the Khedive demanded an explanation from Gordon Pacha. In another despatch Gordon Pacha desires that Egypt should cede to Italy a port in the Red Sea in order to produce complications between Abyssinia and Italy. The Ministers unanimously rejected the proposal. Other despatches were submitted to the Council from Gordon Pacha, showing his inconsistency. Gordon Pacha left Massowah on the 21st inst. for Cairo."

THE ENVOY IN AETHIOPIA.

[The results of Colonel Gordon's mission to King John have now been published. On arriving at Abba he was received by an Abyssinian Court official, who gave several entertainments in his honor and detained him a whole week. At Adua he was received by the King with great pomp and ceremony, and a villa was placed at his disposal, where he lodged at the King's expense. Four days after his arrival he received notice that the King had left for the province of Amhara, where an insurrection had broken out, and would be absent three weeks. That time elapsed, and the King did not return, so the Egyptian envoy had no other alternative but to follow him to Amhara. After his arrival at Debra Tabor, Gordon Pacha had two audiences with the King, which led to no result whatever, as the latter argued that without the high dignitaries of the Kingdom he could take no important resolution. A fortnight afterward the King returned with Gordon Pacha to Adua. A grand council was then assembled, but after several sittings they declared that the question of peace or war concerned the King alone, as he knew best what was good for his people. Thereupon the King put forward the following conditions of peace:—

1. Restitution to Abyssinia of the coast territory that had been ceded.
2. Departure from those districts of the Mussulman colonists.
3. Restitution of the taxes collected there during the Egyptian occupation, amounting to 50,000,000.
4. Restitution of the Bogos territory.
5. An extensive rectification of frontier in the direction of the Nile.
6. Recognition of King John as Emperor of Abyssinia.
7. The obligation for Egypt not to supply the Mussulmans living south of Abyssinia with arms and ammunition.
8. Suspension of customs dues between the Egyptian town of Zeilah and Abyssinia.]

CUBAN FREEDOM.

THE FIRST MILESTONE REACHED BY THE SPANISH SENATE—PASSAGE OF THE ABOLITION BILL IN THE UPPER HOUSE—A COMMITTEE TO REPORT.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

MADRID, Dec. 24, 1879.

The Senate to-day approved the bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba. In the Chamber of Deputies the bill was read the first time, and a committee was appointed to report upon it.

WHAT IS THOUGHT IN CUBA OF THE MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN SPAIN.—THE CONSERVATIVES TAKE HEART—UNPOPULARITY OF CAMPOS.

HAVANA, Dec. 20, 1879.

The ministerial crisis in Spain has the least impression here in Cuba where the greatest interest in it should have been felt. This indifference to the fall from power of the man whose aspirations have been the hope of this island for the last two years finds explanation in the peculiar chain of events which first raised General Martinez Campos to the highest position in Spain and afterward visibly undermined his power. The slaveholders and unprogressive Spaniards never liked General Campos on account of his liberal spirit and because they were bitterly opposed to all reforms; and now, although it has been officially stated that the change of Ministry does not imply a change of policy of the government, the conservatives seem to think that their own cherished ideas will be carried out in the proposed reforms. Señor Romero Robledo, who is figured prominently in the ministerial crisis, is a son-in-law of the lately deceased Señor Zulueta, who was one of the richest and most influential Spaniards of the conservative type on this island, and it is probable that Romero Robledo has been well instructed with regard to the views of the influential Spaniards in Cuba. As a proof of how the conservative element has drawn renewed courage from the return to power of Canovas del Castillo it may be stated that this week forty slaves were sold in this city at \$500, gold, each. Both Martinez Campos and Canovas del Castillo profess the same principles, both belong to the same party, and the only point upon which they differ is the manner in which peace should be secured to Cuba. While General Campos was preparing his scheme of reform for Cuba for presentation to the Cortes some of the chiefs of the former insurrection returned to the island and violated the Treaty of Zanjon. This was a terrible blow to Campos; his success became doubtful and it was necessary to take up arms again. One of the circumstances which most contributed to sustain the political prestige of Martinez Campos was the glory of having pacified Cuba, but the fact that the insurrection had broken out anew weakened the moral influence necessary to him in order to control the Ministry and the Cortes. The effect which the ministerial change may have on the condition of Cuba will appear later on, but it would be impossible to think that the once promised reforms should be withheld from the people who are yet patiently awaiting them.

QUELLING THE INSURRECTION.

HAVANA, Dec. 24, 1879.

Captain General Blanco started for the seat of the insurrection this afternoon. The weather being very favorable all the plantations are at work grinding cane. [A telegram from Havana has been received by the Spanish Minister at Washington stating that "the so-called Colonel Guerra surrendered to-day at Holguin, with the fifty-one men composing his command."]

AMERICANS IN ST. THOMAS.

THREATENING THE LIVES OF TWO UNITED STATES CITIZENS—INSULTING THE STARS AND STRIPES.

(BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.)

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 23, 1879.

Mr. James B. Eckert, United States Consul at Laguna, Venezuela, and Dr. Gabor Naphygy, an American citizen established in this city, have just arrived here from Barcelona, and report that the American flag has been insulted, American lives threatened and immense American interests involved. They demand the sending of a vessel of war.

A SPECULATIVE PHILOLOGIST.

Dr. Gabor Naphygy is a Hungarian by birth, but a naturalized American citizen. He resided in Mexico in the time of Maximilian, from whom he had a concession for erecting gas works. He has lived in Venezuela for several years, and is understood to have obtained concessions from President Guzman Blanco for the introduction of some industrial processes. He is also believed to possess a considerable mining interest in the vicinity of Barcelona, the scene of the alleged outrage. Dr. Naphygy is a person of philological tastes, and some years ago published "The Album of Language," a manual of folk vocabulary containing the Latin Prayer in an immense number of languages. This work obtained for him several decorations from European sovereigns.

CABLE NOTE.

The *Daily News* has been requested by the Peruvian Minister to state that there is no foundation for the report from a Chilean source, published in the *New York Herald*, that a revolution had broken out in Moquegua. Telegrams from Lima received by the Peruvian Legation at London, via Panama, December 21, do not mention such a revolution [which is conclusive].

SOUTH AMERICA.

THE PERUVIAN VICTORY AT TARAPACA CONFIRMED.—LA PUERTA'S MINISTRY TENDERS ITS RESIGNATION.—PRADO'S PROCLAMATION.

Lima advices of December 3 to the Peruvian Chargé d'Affaires, received per mail of the steamer *Almas*, from Colon, confirm the telegraphic report given by the Peruvian Legation to the press on the 14th inst. of a battle at Tarapaca on November 27, in which the allied forces were victorious.

General Prado, the President of Peru, having just returned to Lima from the coast of war, had again assumed charge of the executive power. General La Puerta, the first Vice President and acting President, having announced the fact by decree dated December 2.

The Cabinet of General La Puerta tendered their resignation to the President, but it was not accepted, and they continued in office. On receiving his office President Prado issued a proclamation to the public, which was very well received.

MURDER BY SCHOOL GIRLS.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24, 1879.

A despatch from Hagerstown, Ind., states that a murder which occurred near a country schoolhouse between Centerville and Williamsburg two weeks since has just come to light. Two school girls, about fifteen years old, daughters of wealthy parents, were expelled from the school for bad treatment of a schoolmate of the same age named Miss Kates. While the latter was on her way home after school, they assaulted her, one knocking her down with a base ball bat and the other jumping on her and breaking four of her ribs. Miss Kates managed to crawl to the distant end of her home, and soon communicating the facts to her mother. According to report the parents of the assailants went to the murdered girl's mother and persuaded her by a bribe of \$5,000 to keep the affair secret. The facts, however, leaked out through school children who witnessed the assault, and have created much excitement.

A BRUTAL FIGHT.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1879.

A St. Louis despatch says a terrible fight took place near there, in an old stable, on Monday evening, between a Siberian bloodhound and Patsy Brennan, a pugilist, for \$250 a side. The man was victorious, after a disgusting fight of forty-five minutes, in which his shoulders and arms were lacerated by the dog's teeth. The bloodhound had his heavy lips torn off and was so badly maimed that he died within an hour. The police are busy hunting up all concerned in the brutal exhibition.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Wolner's Union distillery at Peoria, Ill., was burned yesterday. Loss, \$50,000.

The damage by the fire on Tuesday in Carlton County, Minn., is estimated at \$20,000; insurance, \$17,000.

The Ohio and Mississippi Railroad has filed a claim of \$18,400 for damages received from Morgan's raid during the late war.

Henry S. New, Assistant Postmaster at Pittsfield, Mass., has been convicted of removing unpaid stamps from letters, substituting cancelled ones. He was fined \$200.

HUTCH ARRIVALS.

Horatio C. Hutch, director of the United States Mint, and Joseph J. Hughes, the comedian, are at the Fifth Avenue. Judge Samuel Hand, of Albany, is at the Brunswick. General Israel Vogles, United States Army, is at the Hoffman. Paymaster Arthur Burris, United States Navy, is at the Gilsey.

## PRESENT TO STONEWALL JACKSON'S DAUGHTER.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.)

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24, 1879.

Miss Julia Jackson, the sixteen-year-old daughter of Stonewall Jackson, was presented to-day by ex-Confederate soldiers in Maryland with a handsome silver pitcher, inscribed, "To General Stonewall Jackson's daughter, from Confederate soldiers in Maryland, Christmas, 1879." The presentation was made in a quiet manner at Miss Cary's school, where Miss Jackson is a pupil. Mrs. Jackson was present. The committee, consisting of General Isaac R. Trimble, General George H. Stewart, Captain F. M. Colston and Privates Hoffman Gilmer, J. J. Fenton, W. H. Pope and George Savage, made the presentation in general Trimble making a few remarks, and Miss Jackson responded feelingly and gracefully, and asked the General to convey her thanks to the donors for their beautiful gift.

## RAILROAD LITIGATION.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1879.

A despatch from Urbana, Ohio, to the *Enquirer* says:—"The United Rolling Stock Company filed a bill in the Common Pleas Court against the Atlantic and Great Western Railway Company and the trustees of the various mortgages of that road, claiming a lien on the railroad for above \$1,500,000, prior to that of the mortgages. The claim is based on the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, putting supplies, repairs and use of rolling stock in preference to mortgages. The claimant wants a perfect lien before January 9, the time fixed for the sale of the road.

## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD EARNINGS.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24, 1879.

The following statement of the business of all lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad east of Pittsburgh and Erie for November, 1879, as compared with the same month in 1878, shows:—

An increase in gross earnings of \$135,890; an increase in expenses of \$179,007; a decrease in net earnings of \$43,117. The eleven months of 1879, as compared with the same period in 1878, show an increase in gross earnings of \$2,254,710; an increase in expenses of \$1,945,227; an increase in net earnings of \$309,483. All lines west of Pittsburgh and Erie for the eleven months of 1879 showed a surplus over liabilities of \$1,368,215, being a gain over the same period of 1878 of \$847,200.

## A BRAKEMAN KILLED.

SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., Dec. 24, 1879.

This morning, while coupling cars on the wharf which is the terminus of the Danbury and South Norwalk Railroad, John Bayard, a brakeman, was run over by a freight car and completely cut in two. He lived about ten minutes. Deceased, who had been in the employ of the railroad company twelve years, was forty years of age, and leaves a wife and three children.

## A NEW SWINDLE IN GRAIN.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1879.

Four car loads of bleached barley arrived here yesterday from Chicago for one of our brewers. An inspector has just examined the grain, and found that it had been "sulphurized," by which process an inferior article was given the appearance of superior barley. A *Gazette* reporter has been informed by good authority that there is in Chicago a large quantity of the bleached barley, and that it is being sold at a low price. The consignor refused to accept the lot which arrived yesterday, and it remains at the depot subject to the seller's order.

## STORM IN NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, Dec. 24, 1879.

Tempestuous weather continues in this region. Another snow storm prevails this afternoon, and there is every prospect of rain and a southeast gale.

## COLD WEATHER IN UTAH.

OONCE, Dec. 24, 1879.

We have had unprecedented cold weather in this section for the past two days. The thermometer was 12 degrees below zero here this morning, while east and north it was 35 degrees below. There is not much snow, but the trains are delayed by the cold.

## HEAVY RAIN IN OHIO.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 24, 1879.

Heavy rain yesterday and to-day has been general all along both sides of the Ohio river, and the prospects are that there will be a flood. The river has risen nine feet here during the past twenty-four hours. In Kentucky the rain of to-day is said to have been the heaviest in thirty years, and much damage has been done along the Licking River by the sudden rise. The Little Miami River is very high. A bridge over Walnut Creek, on the Dayton and Southeastern Railroad, was suddenly cut by the flood. The water rose from points up the Ohio River indicate that there have been heavy rains everywhere. The Big Sandy River has risen ten feet in three days, and to-night is rising at the rate of a foot an hour. Large quantities of staves, lumber and logs that were collected on the banks of the Big Sandy are floating down the river, entailing much loss. Reports from the head waters of the Ohio indicate a rapid rise there, so that what is known as the coal boat stage at Pittsburgh is assured for to-morrow, letting out the largest coal vessels that are used. The rain here is freezing as it falls.

## WESTERN RIVER NAVIGATION.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 24, 1879.

Advices from St. Louis report that city ice-bound, with the Mississippi River thence to Cairo un navigable. Here, almost in the same parallel, there has been no sign of ice in the Ohio River, which, for its entire length, is almost free from ice and rising rapidly.

## MIDNIGHT WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—1 A. M.

Indications.

For the Middle Atlantic States and New England—southwest, veering to cooler northwest winds, rising barometer, partly cloudy weather and occasional light rain or snow.

For the South Atlantic and East Gulf States, southwest, veering to cooler west winds, possibly northwest winds, partly cloudy weather and light rains, falling, followed by clear weather.

For the West Gulf States, diminishing northerly winds, rising barometer, colder, cloudy, followed by clear weather.

For the lake region, rising barometer, cooler north to west winds, cloudy weather with snow, possibly followed by clearing weather.

For the canal regions of the Middle States, the temperature will fall possibly below freezing Thursday night.

For the Pacific coast region, clear weather, except possibly rain in the North Pacific.

The rivers will generally rise.

Cautionary off shore signals continue at Indianapolis and Galveston. The display of cautionary signals on the lakes will be discontinued on and after the 20th inst. except at Milwaukee, Grand Haven and Ludington.

## THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature for the past twenty-four hours,